

SCHMIDT'S BREWERY Cleveland, Ohio

Type of Action: Asbestos Abatement

Project Duration: March 23-April 17, 1990 Project Cost: \$4,000 (EPA & TAT cost estimate)

BACKGROUND: On March 23, 1990, EERB was informed of an asbestos hazard at the abandoned Schmidt's Brewery facility. Previous inspections by U.S. EPA EDO and Cleveland Division of Air Pollution Control (CDAPC) indicated friable asbestos entering the environment via broken windows at the abandoned brewery.

CLEANUP ACTION: On March 23, 1990, OSC Renninger contacted U.S. EPA ORC of the situation, indicating EERB would abate the immediate threat to human health and the environment in support of air compliance. ORC indicated the facility owner and contractor were in violation of the Administrative Order dated August 11, 1989, in which they were told to secure the building and remove the asbestos containing material (ACM) and friable asbestos. On March 29, 1990, U.S. EPA and TAT performed a site investigation in which air samples were taken from the broken window areas and solid asbestos samples obtained from the brewhouse floor. Due to salvaging of copper and vandalism, friable asbestos and ACM were noted throughout floors 1-5 of the brewhouse, in some areas over three inches thick. Approximately 40% of the brewhouse windows were broken or missing at the time of inspection. U.S. EPA informed the owner's representative that the following actions were necessary:

- 1. Seal brewhouse windows with plywood or plexiglass
- 2. Wet all ACM and cover
- 3. Begin ACM removal with qualified crew

On March 30-April 4, 1990, brewhouse windows were repaired to U.S. EPA satisfaction and wetting of ACM was initiated abating the immediate threat of asbestos release to the environment. Presently U.S. EPA Air Compliance Branch and CDAPC are monitoring the progress of the asbestos abatement work funded by facility owner.

ENFORCEMENT: EERB supported Air Compliance Branch in enforcement of Section 303 of the Clean Air Act. Immediate threat to human health and environment was documented with asbestos air and solid samples thru EERB site investigation. Owners were in violation of August 11, 1989, Consent Order for asbestos abatement.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESULTS: Air sampling by EERB indicated the Schmidt's Brewhouse to be a source of ACM entering the environment. With the enclosure activities of the brewhouse on March 30-April 4, 1990, this threat has been abated.

EMERGENCY SUPPORT SECTION